

# Milton Mural Project



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**Milton Mural Project  
c/o Milton Community Foundation  
P.O. Box 12  
Milton, De. 19968**

**(Please checks only made out to 'Milton Community Foundation' and  
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# **Milton Mural Project (A Public Arts Project)**

## **Project Description and Proposal**

### **Project Title: Milton Mural Project**

**Background:** The historic small Town of Milton is in the southeastern part of Sussex County, Delaware, with a population of approximately 2,500 residents. It is undergoing a resurgence with multiple new businesses, either starting up or relocating in the downtown area.

The Town has doubled the size and updated its library, completely renovated both its museum and Milton Memorial Park, established Mill Park, with the town's first piece of public art, a statue of philosopher/historian John Milton, and created water gardens for storm water management in public/private partnerships with M & T Bank, the Milton Library, H.O. Brittingham Elementary School, DENREC, and the Milton Community Foundation.

Under the auspices of the Milton Economic Development Committee, new signage has been installed in and around the Town to provide visitors and residents alike with directional and destination information; and there is now an opportunity to utilize a large, exterior blank wall for a mural on one side of the Irish Eyes restaurant, as another public arts project.

### **History:**

This idea for the project was introduced in the spring of 2014 in the Town of Milton's Economic Development Committee by member Steve Crawford. Subsequently, an ad hoc working group of citizens and organizations interested in this project was formed to execute the project.

### **Objectives:**

The three objectives of the mural are to (1) advertise the welcoming nature of the town, (2) inform visitors about the Town's historic legacies, which has 185 houses on the National Historic Register, and home to five former Governors. [Note: many visit the Town to tour the aesthetically pleasing Dogfish Head Brewery], and, (3) use public art to visually enhance the restaurant's side wall so as to be compatible with its surroundings and the restaurant's just completed historically appropriate front façade.

## **Implementation:**

Interested citizens and businesses are working together to plan and implement the project; Irish Eyes is donating the use of the wall for this project, and is willing to invest in any wall preparation to accommodate the mural. (See pages 4, 5 and 6) The materials used will be long-lasting, and will engage the expertise of Rogers Signs.

Steve Crawford serves as the project manager for the ad hoc group that includes:

Tom Jones, Owner, Irish Eyes

Lynn Rogers, Owner, Rogers Signs - to design and execute wall mural.

Joanie Martin-Brown, Board Member, Milton Community Foundation 501 c (3) – Project's funds manager

Mark Carter, Dogfish Brewery - funding support

Allison Schell, Executive Director, Milton Historical Society - historical perspective and funding support

Aurelio Grisanty, Member, Milton Arts Guild, - artistic support

Barry Goodinson, Participating citizen – historical perspective

Russ McCabe, Historian, historical perspective

## **Project Financial Management:**

In February the project was presented to the Milton Community Foundation (MCF) in an attempt to engage the MCF to support the project. As a result, the MCF has agreed that this project is a project fits into their mission statement; support of community based arts and educational projects. Therefore, the MCF will manage the financial aspect of the project, which also provides donors the opportunity for a tax deduction, as the MCF is a 503c organization.

## **Project Plan:**

Interested citizens and businesses are working together to plan and implement the Milton Mural Project. Irish Eyes is donating the use of the wall for this project. In addition, Lynn Rogers of Rogers Signs has volunteered his services to provide the expertise for the design and painting of the mural.

### **Target Completion Timeframe – Fall of 2015**

- Completion date is impacted by the ability to raise funds for the project.
- An unveiling event with extensive media coverage is planned after completion.

### **Initial Stages – Complete**

Design of Mural

- Tom Jones owner of Irish Eyes building and Lynn Rogers of Rogers Signs in Milton

Selecting the Mural Creator

- Lynn Rogers of Rogers Signs in Milton
- Arrangement for Financial Management Support
- Milton Community Foundation

### **Next Steps –**

#### Fund Raising Efforts – In Progress

- Create publicity – Newspaper article(s)
- Contact State and County Officials for Funding Opportunities
- Research and Apply for Other Grants, As Available
- Enlist Support of Town Residents at Milton Town Council Meeting
- Enlist Milton Chamber of Commerce for Local Business Support
  - o Potential Fund Raising Events
- Enlist Milton Historical Society to Help Plan and Execute an Internet Crowd Funding Effort

#### Logistics Planning – Complete by August 2015

- Ensure All Insurance Concerns are Managed
- Coordinate Work with Property Owner
- Schedule the Evaluation and Repair of the Building Wall
- Work with Lynn Rogers of Rogers Signs for Scheduling Painting of the Mural
- Final Event Planning
  - o Work with Irish Eyes Restaurant to Plan an Unveiling Event for the Town Residents

#### Mural Creation – Fall 2015

- Lynn Rogers of Rogers Signs to Prepare the Wall and Paint the Mural

#### Dedication Event – Fall 2015

- On an appropriate weekend in the Fall of 2015, with Irish Eyes Restaurant as the sponsor, hold a dedication Event for the residents of Milton. A primary purpose of this event is to acknowledge all the organizations and individuals who helped get this project completed.

### **Project Budget:**

The actual cost of the project is projected by Lynn Rogers to be \$13,940. However, Lynn is going to work with his paint supplier and see if there is an opportunity to get the paint for cost and possibly get a donation of some paint as well.

**Photo Notes:**

**Photo 1-** Shows Irish Eyes on Union Street, and further down shows Union Street crossing the Broadkill River. The town's library is situated next to the river across the bridge. The Milton Historical Society and Lydia Cannon Museum are also across the bridge, and Milton Memorial Park is over the river behind Irish Eyes. Thus the mural's location will be highly visible in a heavily trafficked part of Milton, which is a walking community.

**Photo 2** - The first building on the right is Irish Eyes and the picture shows the leading edge of the wall proposed for the mural. The library is the third building down from Irish Eyes, and Milton's theater across the street.

**Photo 3** – A picture of the wall that will host the mural.

**Photo 4** – The Welcome to Milton Mural

Photo One: Wall Location within Town



Photo Two: Street View





Photo Three: Actual Wall View



Photo Four: Final Design of Mural



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